UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/842,138	04/26/2001	Takeo Hariu	206429US2	6552

22850	7590	08/25/2004	

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EXAMINER
NGUYEN, PHUOC H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2143	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-9_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-9_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some *   c) ☐ None of:

   1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1.   Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers

have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed
> in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for
> patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an
> international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this
> subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United
> States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3.   Claims 1 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Coss et al (Hereafter,

Coss) U.S. Pat. No. 6,154,775.

4.   Regarding claim 1, Coss teaches a concentrated network interconnection control system

(e.g. computer network firewall) provided in a network which provides connections between a

plurality of user networks (e.g. Figure 1, user sites 101-104), comprising: a plurality of interfaces

connected to individual user networks for transmitting and receiving packets (Figures 5a and 5b;

col. 6, lines 18-28); a network interconnection controller providing a plurality of control function

parts independently for each pair of user networks, and a function association selector (e.g.

selecting table) for associating each interface to either one of the plurality of control function

parts (Figures 3,5a, and 5b; col. 3, lines 43-57, col. 4, lines 1-11; and col. 6, lines 1-23).

5.   Regarding claim 2, Coss further teaches the function association selector comprises a

function managing table which manages a relationship between each interface and corresponding

control function part, each interface being associated to either one of the plurality of control

function parts on the basis of the function managing table (Figures 3,4,6, and 8; col. 3, lines 56

through col. 4, 1st paragraph).

6.   Regarding claim 3, Coss further teaches the network interconnection controller comprises

a network interconnection control table which defines rules for connection between each pair of

terminal addresses for the pairs of user networks which correspond to each of the control

function parts (Figure 4).

7.   Regarding claim 4, Coss further teaches the concentrated network interconnection control

system represents a concentrated firewall equipment, and in which the function association

selector comprises (Abstract): a function managing table for managing a relationship between

each interface and corresponding one of the control function parts, an identifier imparting part

for retrieving an identifier for the control function part which corresponds to the interface that

has received a packet from the function managing table and for imparting the identifier to the

packet, a firewall function selector for transferring the packet to the control function part which

corresponds to the imparted identifier, and an output interface selector for retrieving an interface

which corresponds to the identifier imparted to the packet from the control function part from the

function managing table and for delivering the packet to the corresponding interface (Figures

3,5a and 5b; col. 6, lines 16 through col. 7, lines 6).

8.   Regarding claim 5, Coss further teaches the network interconnection controller contains a

firewall table including pairs of sender and receiver terminal addresses for each pair of user

networks, a direction of transfer between each pair of interfaces corresponding to each pair of

addresses, and a connection control indicating whether a connection between each pair of addresses is enabled or rejected (Figure 4).

9.   Regarding claim 6, Coss further teaches a function managing table for managing a relationship between each interface and corresponding one of the control function parts; an identifier imparting part for retrieving an identifier for the control function part which corresponds to the interface which has received a packet from the function managing table and for imparting the identifier to the packet, an address translation function selector for transferring the packet to the control function part which corresponds to the imparted identifier, and an output interface selector for retrieving an interface which corresponds to the identifier imparted to the packet from the control function part from the function managing table and for delivering the packet to the corresponding interface (Figures 3,5a and 5b; col. 4, lines 11; and col. 6, lines 16 through col. 7, lines 6).

10.   Regarding claim 7, Coss further teaches the network interconnection controller contains an address translation table including a pair of a terminal address in one of a pair of user networks which is to be translated and a translated address, and a direction of transfer between corresponding interfaces with respect to each of the identifiers (Figures 3 and 4; col. 4, lines 4-18).

11.   Regarding claims 8 and 9, Coss further teaches the function association selector and the network interconnection controller are formed by devoted logic circuits and implemented in a software which is executed by a computer (col. 3, lines 25-35).

Conclusion

12.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

    Coss et al U.S. Pat. 6,170,012

    Wesinger, Jr. et al U.S. Pat. 6,052,788

    Pistriotto et al U.S. Pat. 6,138,162

    Arunkumar et al U.S. Pat. 6,691,147

    Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Phuoc H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-5315.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon -Thu (7AM-4: 30PM) and off every other Friday.

    If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on 703-308-5221. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
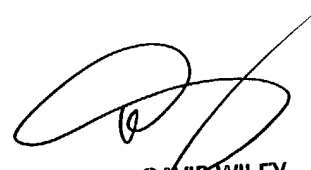
    Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

                                                        Phuoc H. Nguyen
                                                        Examiner
                                                        Art Unit 2143

August 12, 2004

DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100